PATENT Attorney Docket No.: 3495.0010-24

IN THE CHITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)

Marc ALIZON et al.

Serial No.: 08/475,822

Filed: June 7, 1995

Group Art Unit: 1805

Examiner: J. F. RAILEY

For: CLONED DNA SEQUENCES RELATED TO THE GENOMIC RNA OF LYMPHADENOPATHY-ASSOCIATED VIRUS (LAV) AND PROTEINS ENCODED BY SAID LAV GENOMIC RNA

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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RESPONSE TO PAPER NO. 20

In response to the Official Action dated June 24, 1996, the period for response which has been extended three months by the filing of a request for extension and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, applicants submit the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 11-18 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 11-22 of copending application S.N. 08/202,239.

The Examiner indicates that while the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the claims are directed to identical nucleic acid sequences to be used as probes in the diagnostic hybridization methods of the instant application.

LAW OFFICES

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